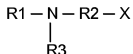


This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

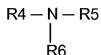
1. (Previously presented) A gelled anode mixture comprising a metal alloy powder, a gelling agent, an alkaline electrolyte having a hydroxide concentration less than 40 weight%, and at least one amphoteric surfactant.

2. (Previously presented) A gelled anode mixture as claimed in claim 1 wherein the amphoteric surfactant has a formula



wherein: R1 is an alkyl group having between 8 and 30 unbranched carbon atoms; R2 is an alkyl group having between 1 to about 6 unbranched carbon atoms, optionally substituted with 1 or more hydroxyl substituents; R3 is selected from a polyethylene oxide group having between 3 and 40 ethylene oxide units and a polypropylene oxide group having between 1 to 10 propylene oxide units; and, X is an anionic acid group, an anionic acid ester, or an alkali metal salt of an anionic acid or acid ester.

3. (Previously presented) A gelled anode mixture as claimed in claim 2 further comprising an amphoteric surfactant having a formula



wherein: R4 is an unbranched alkyl group having between 8 and 30 unbranched carbon atoms that form an aliphatic fatty amine when bound to the nitrogen atom; R5 is

selected from a polyethylene oxide group having between 3 and 40 ethylene oxide units and a polypropylene oxide group having between 1 and 10 propylene oxide units; and, R6 is selected from hydrogen, a polyethylene oxide group having between 3 and 40 ethylene oxide units and a polypropylene oxide group having between 1 and 10 propylene oxide units.

4. (Previously presented) A gelled anode mixture as claimed in claim 1 further comprising a surfactant having a general formula $Y SO_x^-$ or a salt thereof, wherein x is 3 or 4, and wherein Y is selected from the group consisting of an alkyl group, an aryl group, an alkylaryl group, and a carboxy acid group.

5. (Canceled)

6. (Original) A gelled anode mixture as claimed in claim 4 wherein the $Y SO_x^-$ surfactant is a salt of a sulfated octadecanoic acid.

7. (Original) A gelled anode mixture as claimed in claim 4 wherein the $Y SO_x^-$ surfactant is a sodium salt of sulfated oleic acid.

8. (Canceled)

9. (Original) A gelled anode mixture as claimed in claim 1 further comprising an organic phosphate ester surfactant.

10. (Original) A gelled anode mixture as claimed in claim 9 wherein the organic phosphate ester surfactant is an ethylene oxide-adduct type organic phosphate ester.

11. (Canceled)

12. (Previously presented) A gelled anode mixture as claimed in claim 9 further comprising a surfactant having a general formula $Y SO_x^-$ or a salt thereof, wherein x is 3

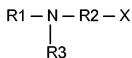
or 4, and wherein Y is selected from the group consisting of an alkyl group, an aryl group, an alkylaryl group, and a carboxy acid group.

Claims 13 - 20. (Canceled)

21. (Original) A gelled anode mixture as claimed in claim 1, wherein the electrolyte comprises KOH.

22. (Previously presented) An alkaline electrochemical cell comprising:
a positive current collector;
a cathode in contact with the positive current collector;
a gelled anode comprising a metal alloy powder, a gelling agent, an alkaline electrolyte having a hydroxide concentration less than 40 weight%, and at least one amphoteric surfactant;
a separator between the cathode and the anode; and
a negative current collector in electrical contact with the anode.

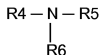
23. (Previously presented) A alkaline electrochemical cell as claimed in claim 22 wherein the amphoteric surfactant has a formula



wherein: R1 is an alkyl group having between 8 and 30 unbranched carbon atoms; R2 is an alkyl group having between 1 to about 6 unbranched carbon atoms, optionally substituted with 1 or more hydroxyl substituents; R3 is selected from a polyethylene oxide group having between 3 and 40 ethylene oxide units and a polypropylene oxide group having between 1 to 10 propylene oxide units; and, X is an anionic acid group, an anionic acid ester, or an alkali metal salt of an anionic acid or acid ester.

24. (Previously presented) A alkaline electrochemical cell as claimed in claim 23

further comprising an amphoteric surfactant having a formula



wherein: R4 is an unbranched alkyl group having between 8 and 30 unbranched carbon atoms that form an aliphatic fatty amine when bound to the nitrogen atom; R5 is selected from a polyethylene oxide group having between 3 and 40 ethylene oxide units and a polypropylene oxide group having between 1 and 10 propylene oxide units; and, R6 is selected from hydrogen, a polyethylene oxide group having between 3 and 40 ethylene oxide units and a polypropylene oxide group having between 1 and 10 propylene oxide units.

25. (Previously presented) A alkaline electrochemical cell as claimed in claim 22 further comprising a surfactant having a general formula Y SO_x^- or a salt thereof, wherein x is 3 or 4, and wherein Y is selected from the group consisting of an alkyl group, an aryl group, an alkylaryl group, and a carboxy acid group.

26. (Canceled)

27. (Original) A alkaline electrochemical cell as claimed in claim 25 wherein the Y SO_x^- surfactant is a salt of a sulfated octadecanoic acid.

28. (Original) A alkaline electrochemical cell as claimed in claim 25 wherein the Y SO_x^- surfactant is a sodium salt of sulfated oleic acid.

29. (Canceled)

30. (Original) A alkaline electrochemical cell as claimed in claim 22 further comprising an organic phosphate ester surfactant.

31. (Original) A alkaline electrochemical cell as claimed in claim 30 wherein the organic phosphate ester surfactant is an ethylene oxide-adduct type organic phosphate ester.

32. (Canceled)

33. (Previously presented) A alkaline electrochemical cell as claimed in claim 30 further comprising a surfactant having a general formula $Y SO_x^-$ or a salt thereof, wherein x is 3 or 4, and wherein Y is selected from the group consisting of an alkyl group, an aryl group, an alkylaryl group, and a carboxy acid group.

Claims 34 - 42. (Canceled)

43. (Currently amended) A gelled anode mixture ~~as claimed in claim 14~~ further comprising a metal alloy powder, a gelling agent, an alkaline electrolyte having a hydroxide concentration less than 40 weight%, and at least one amphoteric surfactant, wherein the metal alloy powder comprises zinc particles, at least 70 weight% of the particles having a particle size within a 100 micron size range distribution, the distribution having a mode between about 100 and about 300 microns.

44. (Currently amended) A alkaline electrochemical cell ~~as claimed in claim 35~~ wherein the gelled anode further comprises comprising:

a positive current collector;

a cathode in contact with the positive current collector;

a gelled anode comprising a metal alloy powder, a gelling agent, an alkaline electrolyte having a hydroxide concentration less than 40 weight%, and at least one amphoteric surfactant, wherein the metal alloy powder comprises zinc particles, at least 70 weight% of the particles having a particle size within a 100 micron size range distribution, the distribution having a mode between about 100 and about 300 microns;

a separator between the cathode and the anode; and

a negative current collector in electrical contact with the anode.

45. (New) A gelled anode mixture as claimed in claim 43 wherein the mode of the particle size distribution is about 100 microns.

46. (New) A gelled anode mixture as claimed in claim 43 wherein the mode of the particle size distribution is about 150 microns.

47. (New) A gelled anode mixture as claimed in claim 43 wherein the mode of the particle size distribution is about 250 microns.

48. (New) A gelled anode mixture as claimed in claim 43, wherein the electrolyte has an hydroxide concentration no higher than about 34 weight%.

49. (New) A gelled anode mixture as claimed in claim 43, wherein the electrolyte has an hydroxide concentration no higher than about 30 weight%.

50. (New) A gelled anode mixture as claimed in claim 43, wherein the electrolyte has an hydroxide concentration no higher than about 28 weight%.

51. (New) A alkaline electrochemical cell as claimed in claim 44 wherein the mode of the particle size distribution is about 100 microns.

52. (New) A alkaline electrochemical cell as claimed in claim 44 wherein the mode of the particle size distribution is about 200 microns.

53. (New) A alkaline electrochemical cell as claimed in claim 44 wherein the mode of the particle size distribution is about 300 microns.

54. (New) A alkaline electrochemical cell as claimed in claim 44, wherein the electrolyte has an hydroxide concentration no higher than about 34 weight%.

55. (New) A alkaline electrochemical cell as claimed in claim 44, wherein the electrolyte has an hydroxide concentration no higher than about 30 weight%.

56. (New) A alkaline electrochemical cell as claimed in claim 44, wherein the electrolyte has an hydroxide concentration no higher than about 28 weight%.

57. (New) A alkaline electrochemical cell as claimed in claim 44, wherein the electrolyte comprises KOH.